

DANCER SHOT AS SPY FOUND VICTIMS EASY

Story of Mata Hari, Beautiful Dutch East Indian, Stirs Paris.

HIGH OFFICIALS HIT
Massard's Memoirs Say
Lust for Gold Led to
Woman's Death.

DOUBT ABOUT HER FATE

Career of German Agent in
France and Elsewhere Is
Subject of Play.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
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New York Herald Bureau,
Paris, Dec. 9.

Mata Hari, the beautiful Dutch East Indian dancer, who was executed as a spy during the war, was a victim of her lust for gold, according to Commandant Emile Massard, who is now making public his memoirs in connection with the case. M. Massard, writing in the *Liberte*, says the dancer, who on her first public appearance in Paris made a sensation by appearing in a covering of bronze powder and whose strange charm led to the downfall of various French and German officials, also had close relations with high officials of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as with one French War Cabinet Minister, but he refuses to give names.

The two installments of M. Massard's revelations appearing yesterday and to-day have failed to satisfy French public curiosity, as he has not given the names of the high French officials, and especially the high functionary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to whom he refers. On the other hand, because of his discretion political circles here are breathing easier, as it had been feared that he, an eye witness of the things he relates, intended to break his silence on the scandal, which, it was generally expected, would result in many resignations from governmental positions.

In connection with these revelations by M. Massard, one of the vernacular newspapers here to-night revives the report which was current here at the time Mlle. Mata Hari faced a firing squad in the military prison in Vincennes, that she was never really put to death, but, to the contrary, because of her strong hold on certain French officials, she was able to escape the death penalty and go to Italy, where she is now living in seclusion.

The newspaper in question quotes one eye-witness of the execution to the effect that when she appeared before the firing squad she was absolutely fearless and even refused to permit them to blindfold her. It asserts that when the shots were fired, she seemed to lower herself gracefully to the foot of the execution post. "When it was observed that her face had been spared by the bullets and that not a drop of blood appeared on her white silk blouse," it asserts that even the officer who gave the coup de grace did so from a distance, and not directly over her body, after which her body was removed from the military prison in Vincennes in a coffin, the size of which caused the eye-witnesses to comment. Although the French have not credited these reports, several Italian newspaper men have insisted that they have recognized Mlle. Mata Hari in Italy, despite the fact that her death certificate was signed by French military doctors, the certificate forming the closing chapter of one of the war's most famous dossiers.

Mlle. Mata Hari's conviction came as a climax to a sensational attempt by her to obtain secrets from the French Military Attache in Madrid, where the dancer lived nightly at the Grand Hotel in the same room with French and German officials. The French, however, suspected the wiles of the beautiful dancer and kept her at a distance. As a result of this Berlin ordered her to leave

Madrid and return to Paris, where she was told to await further instructions.

M. Massard says she had captivated the German Naval Attache in Madrid and that he presented valuable jewels to her, but Mata Hari preferred gold, and obtained a tip that Mlle. Mata Hari was turned the German naval officer's gifts, with a request that the German espionage service pay her in cash instead of in diamonds and rubies.

The chief of the German espionage service with headquarters in Amsterdam promptly was requested to send 15,000 pesetas (about \$3,000) to the dancer under the code name "C. A. 42," payment to be made at a certain neutral embassy in Paris, presumably the Spanish. Whether this was the German Government's method of settling rid of a spy who had failed in her Madrid task will never be known, but the French court espionage service

received a tip that Mlle. Mata Hari was to draw funds from a neutral embassy here and she was promptly arrested.

The dancer's only explanation when she was arraigned before a court martial was that the German naval lieutenant "did not want to pay for my affection with his own money, and so he decided to make his Government pay for it."

"Believe me, gentlemen," she continued, "the money was only what was mine by right."

High Official a Witness.
It was Mata Hari herself who asked the court that a certain Foreign Affairs official be called as a witness, declaring that he was her first admirer after her return to Paris from her unsuccessful mission to Madrid.

"We met on three nights, but we only talked about Indian art," she testified, and the official in question, who was described as having shown great nervousness and embarrassment, supported her testimony.

The court martial, however, insisted that she had used this functionary to convince German espionage chiefs she was able to maintain close relations with some of the very highest French officials and thereby obtain 60,000 marks for services for which the Berlin Government rarely paid more than 1,000 marks monthly to trained agents.

The French War Cabinet Minister who figured in the case was called before the judges and a letter which he had written to Mata Hari and which had been signed by him, was read despite the dancer's protest, she meanwhile declaring she had never spoken of war affairs with him.

Throughout this dramatic and vital session of her trial Mata Hari's attitude was one of extreme pride at having added such notables to her list of victims to her charms. Elegantly gowned, and occasionally touching her lips with a rouge stick, she showed no great concern when witnesses presented remnants of letter heads from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose note paper she accused used in her correspondence with German espionage chiefs in Amsterdam.

Only when fiery letters of adoration signed by numerous French aviation and artillery officers were introduced did she appeal to the judges' "discretion."

"Please, gentlemen," she would cry, "these men are all married! I do not want their wives to know of their friendship with me."

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON DROWNS IN BATHTUB

Internationally Known for
His Welfare Work Among
the Blind.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
London, Dec. 9.

Sir Arthur Pearson, Bart., who for years was one of the most prominent personalities in Fleet street, who had been blind since 1914 and became internationally known through his welfare work for the blind, was found dead today in a bathtub in his residence in Devonshire street with his head under the water. A deep wound over his temple indicated that he had slipped and in falling his head had struck the water tap, rendering him unconscious, though death was probably due to drowning.

Sir Arthur awoke at 8 o'clock this morning and chatted as cheerfully as ever with a servant. Since he had been blind he had kept no valet because he said he believed that a personal servant would be a stumbling block in the path toward blind efficiency, and for the same reason he also discarded his walking stick. He had been accustomed to go about Regent's Park and his home unassisted. This he was able to do through a memory system by which he remembered the number of steps he took and the stairs he mounted.

The tragedy was discovered when a servant, after knocking at the door with-

out receiving a response, entered and found the body of Sir Arthur in his private bath. He had been dead for some time. Lady Pearson, with whom he attended a concert yesterday evening, was prostrated with grief.

Sir Arthur, who was 55 years old, was extensively associated with the newspaper world, was distinguished for his energy as a publisher and more recently for his devotion to the cause of sightless soldiers. His brilliant career as the proprietor of nine daily and four weekly newspapers, nine weekly periodicals and six monthly magazines was cut short by his affliction, but his rise above this to prominence and greater glory by his work with St. Dunstan's Training College of the Blind.

Sir Arthur never allowed his blindness to depress him and pursued his philanthropic work enthusiastically. At Eton he distinguished himself as a great all-around athlete, and later he was noted for the energy and spirit which he put into every endeavor.

Austen Chamberlain once described him as "the greatest hustler ever known."

His blindness came upon him slowly at the height of his success. He used to go out in the fields and look through clouded spectacles at the flowers, saying he wished to do so before "it becomes too late."

When he became blind he struggled to learn the systems for the blind, and, seeing the possibilities of happiness in darkness, he tried to guide others to find as much.

He started his greatest achievement in 1915, when he founded St. Dunstan's Training College of the Blind for soldiers, beginning modestly in a house lent by himself for the purpose, but by the end of the war he had moved the institution into a spacious Regent's Park building, from which already 600 men have been discharged as having

"learned to be blind," while 700 are still in training and the names of 2,000 others are on the books waiting for a mission.

Sir Arthur often guided others who were blind, and once in a heavy fog he assisted a British officer who was "fed up with the beastly country" because he could not find his way. He also devoted money and time to a Fresh Air Fund for children and other philanthropic work.

"Many people," Sir Arthur used to say, "see without perceiving, but the joy of the blind is that they perceive without seeing. To be blind is like all in life. One must conquer the problems as they present themselves."

Much of the success of St. Dunstan's College is due to his happy spirit which inspired others. He treated blindness from an entirely new angle which was completely above pity.

Sir Arthur was known as one of the smartest dressers in London, always groomed himself, poured the wine for his guests at dinner, insisted that he enjoyed smoking as much as before he became blind, and the way he stretched out his hand in acknowledging an introduction deceived many. He trained himself to know voices and as soon as he joined a group of persons he spoke their names readily. At public dinner he would discuss the news of the day with the certainty of a man who knows the contents of the morning's papers.

He was created a baronet in 1916, and will be succeeded by his son, Neville Pearson.

Great as was his work among the blind veterans it really was but a chapter in a great career. He was born February 24, 1866, the son of the late Rev. Arthur C. Pearson of Springfield, Chelmsford, and was made a baronet in 1916. He and his rival, Alfred Harmsworth, now Viscount Northcliffe, began what England called "the new journalism," and what Fleet street then

sneered at as "American news presentation" in the late 90s, Pearson founding the *Daily Express* a few years after Harmsworth started the *Daily Mail*. Both were sold at a half-penny (one cent), another innovation.

Pearson made his first bid for journalistic fame by advocating tariff reform. When Pearson advocated he was with the project to the last shred of his mentality and physical vigor. When he opposed a thing the world knew it.

He began his career in the publishing house of Sir George Newnes and quickly became manager. In four years he left Sir George to start *Pearson's Weekly* which was to become familiar wherever English was read. He followed that journal with *Tit-Bits*, *Home Notes*, *Pearson's Magazine*, *Royal Magazine*, *Novel Magazine*, *Rapid Review* and others.

When the *Daily Express* had made a good start, Pearson then proceeded to make a tour of the country districts buying up provincial newspapers. He started the *North Mail* and *Evening Mail* at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and the *Gazette* and *Express* and *Evening Dispatch* in Birmingham. Later on he bought the *London Standard* and consolidated it with the *St. James Gazette*. He disposed of this property when he became blind.

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A New England Murder Is Agitating Fifteen Nations

"Save Sacco and Vanzetti!" Most of the countries of Europe and South America, even Mexico, it is said, are better acquainted with this slogan than is America, where it originated. Within a few weeks a Massachusetts court will decide whether the two Italians convicted of murder shall have a new trial, and in the meantime bomb outrages, boycotts of American goods, and general strikes throughout the world will emphasize the international Communist conviction that the men are being railroaded to death, not because of what they did, but because of what they thought.

Thus far, bombs have been sent to the American Ambassador in Paris and to the American Consul-General in Lisbon. American representatives in Havana, Peru, Buenos Aires, and Juarez, Mexico, have been warned that their own deaths will follow the execution of the two Italian Communists. American goods are boycotted in several places in South America; demonstrations have been held in front of the American Embassy in Brussels; 5,000 Parisian police were mobilized in Paris following the receipt of a bomb and some fifty threatening letters by Ambassador Herrick; many men and women who had gathered in Rome to protest against the "American judicial murder" were injured, and more than 100 arrested, in a conflict with the police.

What is the basis of this international protest, which started with "three men in a dimly lit, scantily furnished office in Boston"? There is a comprehensive article in THE LITERARY DIGEST this week, graphically illustrated, which presents the history of this conventional murder case which has disturbed many governments. All the opinions upon the case are presented, and, all in all, it represents one of the strangest instances of the far-reaching influences of propaganda that the present generation has witnessed.

Other striking news-articles in THE DIGEST for December 10th, are:

What the Harding Plan Means to the League
Philippine Independence Put Off
A "Makeshift" Tax Law
How to Keep Europe Going
The Row in Porto Rico
Lord Curzon's "Plain Words" to France
German Militarism in British Eyes
Norway's Fourteen Per-Cent Prohibition
Manhattan Island May Be Made Six Miles Longer
Rain and Rainmakers

The World's Biggest Radio Station
Christine Nilsson
Painting With Light
Bolshevism Fatal to Science
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